

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

2 JUNE 1962
~~TOP SECRET~~

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1. Ecuador

Conservative elements in
Ecuador are plotting a coup [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] Military leaders and conservative cabinet ministers who were dismissed last month by harassed President Arosemena appear to have solid armed support and are determined to move against him. In our view their chances of succeeding are fairly good.

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2. Venezuela

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Venezuelan rightists are about to launch a coup with close Communist support. The government is aware of these plots, however, and the latest one [REDACTED] has apparently been snuffed out by timely arrests.

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3. West New Guinea problem

a. The Dutch have authorized U Thant to give the Indonesians firm assurance that: 1) they accept the Bunker formula as a basis for discussion; and 2) they are willing to transfer administration of the area prior to a plebiscite. U Thant plans to deliver these assurances formally to the Indonesians this week end. According to the most recent word from Djakarta this action ought to get the two disputances talking again.

b. Meanwhile [redacted] 50X1
[redacted] Indonesia: [redacted] 50X1
[redacted] agreed that a 50X1
cease-fire would be ordered and infiltration of West New Guinea stopped, as soon as the talks were resumed.

c. [redacted] 50X1
[redacted] Indonesian infiltrators in West 50X1
New Guinea are critically short of food and medicines and exhibit no willingness to fight. [redacted] 50X1
it is only a matter of time before the invaders are captured by the jungle or Dutch patrols.

4. Congo

[redacted] 50X1
[redacted] the persistence of a belief that 50X1
Tshombé is not a free agent in the Leopoldville talks and is negotiating under duress. Katangan die-hards may use this claim in disavowing any agreement reached with Adoula, but our consul in Leopoldville feels that Tshombé can impose "any reasonable integration formula" if he really wants to.

5. Laos

We can report no change in the pattern of the all-too familiar Laotian political scene. The military situation remains unchanged with pro-Communist forces active near Ban Houei Sai in the north and Attoupeu and Saravane in the south.

NOTES

- A. Terrorism has ceased temporarily in Algeria while the OAS tries to pry concessions out of the provisional Algerian government. The PAG is likely to continue to ignore OAS overtures, however, and we anticipate an early resumption of the blood-letting.
 - B. Ambassador Thompson considers Khrushchev's presence at the recent jazz concert in Moscow where Benny Goodman performed before an enthusiastic crowd to be the most striking evidence yet of the role public opinion is beginning to play in Soviet affairs.
 - C. Turkish President Gursel has asked the aging hero, Inonu, to take the reins again and try to form a new government.
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- E. It looks fairly likely that the Brazilian cabinet will be replaced this coming week. Posts, including that of Prime Minister, are still being negotiated. 50X1
- F. It turns out that the important TASS announcement anticipated was the Soviet decree raising meat prices. 50X1
This is the first consumer price increase in the post-Stalin period.

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DOCUMENT OF INTEREST

I.

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE